

National Justice and Peace Network

Open Networking Day

SATURDAY 12 November 2022

10.30 - 4.00

CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB

'A better kind of Politics'

Contributions from and discussion with the Quaker Truth and Integrity Group.



Seeking 'kinder ground'

The ground of tolerance, respect, cooperation, and shared ethical and spiritual values, where oppression can be addressed, and reconciliation sought between those of opposing views

Facilitators: Jan Arriens, Assistant Clerk of QTIG, and Peter Hussey.

There will be a 'notice board' session, with the opportunity for justice and peace groups and representatives from dioceses and Catholic/Christian Agencies to share information about their activities and campaigns.

Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring your own lunch.

For further details contact:

NJPN Administrator, Tel: 020 7901 4864

Email: admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.
The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is
God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

This prayer was composed by the late Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw. Often attributed to Oscar Romero.

(and shared by the Southern Dioceses Environment Network)

Dear Friends,

Who would have thought that in the last four weeks that we would have had (yet another) change of Prime Minister, and a change around in the Cabinet - some good choices, some not so. The best news that I have had heard is that the ban on fracking has been put back, and there will be more about that later.

With COP27 in Egypt rapidly approaching, our main focus has to be the Climate, and I have lots of articles to share, and am going to have to whittle it down to a mix of news, actions and events as usual. I have to say that it was very daunting to find 194 emails in the E-Bulletin inbox when I turned the computer on during Friday evening. Apologies that I haven't replied to everyone who has sent in items. Rest assured that as long as I haven't missed the date on any events, I will include as much as possible.

As you can see from the above advert, we have our next Networking Day on Saturday 12th November in London. Unfortunately, as you will see from

articles below, it clashes with other events going on in regards to the climate. We very much look forward to seeing those of you who are able to get there.

Due to this, it does mean that the next e-bulletin will be out around the 20th November. Please send any articles that you want shared by the Friday of that weekend.

God Bless,

Sharon

E-Bulletin Contents: -

ACTION OF THE WEEK

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- 1. Climate/Environment (including Events and Actions)
- 2. Refugees/Migrants (includes an Event)
- 3. Billions in foreign aid never leaves Britain under Sunak rules analysis
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Newsletters/Reports

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- 16. Joy in Enough Newsletter
- 17. Biofuelwatch October 2022
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Events (***this week marked by ***)

- 20. 8th November Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
- 21. 9th 11th November RISING Global Peace Forum
- 22. 12th November NJPN Open Networking Day
- 23. 12th November World Community for Christian Meditation event
- 24. 12th November Pact JustPeople Workshop in Lewes
- 25. 16th November Housing Justice Giving Thanks
- 26. 17th November WCCM/Laudato Si' event
- 27. 19th November ECCR Just Money Conference
- 28. 26th November Pact JustPeople Roadshow in Kent
- 29. 3rd December Pax Christi Advent Peace Service
- 30. 6th December Pact Carol Service in London
- 31. 8th December Pact Carol Service in Nottingham
- 32. Save the Dates!

Actions

- 33. Please ask the Pope to reconsider his trip to Bahrain
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The Last Word 34. The Letter

See below for: -

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About these E-Bulletins

Donate to NJPN

ACTION OF THE WEEK

This Crisis Demands Action!



Action Week writes:-

There's only 15 days to go until the **COP27 Global Day of Action for Climate Justice on November 12**.

We have already confirmed <u>28 demos across Britain and Ireland</u> and now we are really excited to launch our new video: **This Crisis Demands Action!**

Join your local groups on November 12 to demand action: from the cost of living crisis, to floods in Pakistan, to Shell's criminal profits - we will come together as one to demand justice. Find your local protest: https://climatejustice.uk/cop27/

Please help us share this message and get people out on the streets for Climate Justice on November 12.

Together we are unstoppable!

- Twitter
- Instagram
- YouTube

Thank you!

NEWS AND COMMENT

Climate/Environment (includes Events and Actions)

Energy Charter Treaty is on its last legs

Global Justice Now writes: - France's president, Emmanuel Macron, just announced the country is exiting the climate-wrecking treaty, which lets fossil fuel companies sue governments to block their climate action. Two days before that the Dutch climate minister announced the Netherlands is leaving, saying the ECT is not in line with climate goals. The week before that it was Spain. And in August, Poland.

We've been part of a network of campaigners and activists across Europe fighting to expose the dangers of the ECT, get a critical mass of European countries to leave and cause the whole thing to crumble. Now we can see this beginning to happen before our eyes!

It's thanks to all your tireless efforts campaigning together, alongside our European allies: we've made a little-known trade agreement and its secretive corporate courts so toxic that a stampede of countries are tripping over themselves out of the door.

Now that we have a Government that looks like it might stay for a while, it is time to turn up the pressure on them and get them to exit it too.

Action - Watch and share the <u>campaign video</u> and help spread the word.

Event - Global Justice Now writes: - We'll be outside the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy in London next Friday (4 November) to make the message clear: ministers may come and go, but the threat of the ECT continues to hang over us. No to more fossil fuel extraction, here and everywhere - time to #ExitECT. See more about the <u>plans for the action</u> and join us if you can!

Rishi Sunak has made a positive start by halting fracking, but not going to COP 27 is a grave error of judgement.

Joseph Kelly for The Catholic Network speaks about Rishi Sunak's first few days in office, with the high environmental point being the ban on fracking being put back into place; and the low being that our new PM feels that there are things that he needs to sort out closer to home, than the climate issue. As Joseph Kelly wrote: - a new UN report released this morning declares that the immediate future looks bleak to say the least. Their Emissions Gap Report 2022 "finds that the international community is falling far short of the Paris goals, with no credible pathway to 1.5°C in place. "Only an urgent system-wide transformation can avoid climate disaster," the report states.

You can read his full article here.

(<u>Premier Christian News</u> also quotes Andy Lester, Head of Conservation at A Rocha as saying 'We need you there' in reference to Rishi not attending.)

Talking of the UN reports, this article from <u>The Guardian</u> on Thursday says it how it is - 'World close to 'irreversible' climate breakdown, warn major studies.' It makes very disturbing reading - and so disheartening when we are talking about our common home, that we all have a stake in, and yet all people in power seem to care about is big business and profits.

How you can call for action on the climate crisis at COP27

<u>CAFOD</u> have provided us with a one-stop shop if you want to get involved in the call for action.

You can email the Government, join the Global Day of Action, or join their Webinars on the 7th and 23rd November.

As they rightly say: - Millions of our sisters and brothers in East Africa

are on the brink of starvation as a result of a food crisis made worse by an unprecedented drought. Millions more members of our global family in Pakistan have been left homeless by monumental floods. And millions here in the UK have endured record summer heatwaves, yet face a winter of worry thanks to expensive fossil fuels sending energy bills soaring.

'For Africans, the climate change crisis is a lived reality'

The above words, reported by <u>Vatican News</u>, were said by Cardinal Fridolin Ambongo Besungu, the Archbishop of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, who is also the First Vice President of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM). He has spoken out strongly about the climate change crisis and how it is impacting the African continent in devastating ways. He goes onto say: - Storms and cyclones early in the year caused devastation in Southern Africa, resulting in the destruction of homes and the loss of lives. Eastern Africa is facing the worst food crisis in a generation, precipitated by extreme drought. In West Africa, cities are flooded, communities in the creeks are submerged, conflicts which have simmered for years are now intensifying due to climate-induced displacement.

Read the full article by clicking on the link above.

Action - Time to Make Polluters Pay

Global Justice Now writes: - Shell has again announced huge profits - \$9.5 billion in the last three months (more than double what it made last year). Join us in calling on the government to tax fossil fuel corporations to fund climate compensation for the global south.

As well as ripping off households through sky-high energy bills, Shell and other fossil fuel corporations have evaded responsibility for the loss and damage their carbon emissions have wreaked across the global south.

We are calling on the UK government to support proposals for a loss and damage finance facility at COP27, and to tax big polluters like Shell to pay for it. Add your name here.

WWF report shows massive decrease in wildlife populations

According to the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)'s Living Planet Report 2022, there has been a massive decrease in wildlife populations of around 69% since 1970.

They say 'The staggering rate of decline is a severe warning that the rich biodiversity that sustains all life on our planet is in crisis, putting every species at risk – including us.

The climate and nature crisis is not only an environmental issue, but an economic, development, security, social, moral and ethical issue too. Our world's most vulnerable people, places and wildlife – and those least responsible for the climate and nature crisis – are at greatest risk, and already suffering.

While conservation efforts are helping, urgent action is required if we are to reverse the loss of nature this decade. We all have a role to play in building a better future for our wildlife, our climate and for all of us.

You can read more about it through their website here.

Action - Sign for Climate Justice

Fairtrade Foundation writes: - In cities, towns and villages across the UK over 12,000 people concerned about climate change have been signing their Community Declarations to support Climate Justice – will you join them today? Each signature is sending one simple message to your local politicians: our community stands with communities overseas living with the worst effects of the climate crisis every day.

Fairtrade farmers and workers will be at the COP27 conference, speaking out and watching closely. Because the decisions taken here will have real consequences for the future of their communities. Unfair global trade already denies millions the chance of earn enough for decent food, medical care, education and other essentials. Climate change, caused by centuries of exploitation of people and planet by the world's wealthiest, is only making things worse.

Sign your <u>community declaration</u> to show your MP that local people stand with communities taking on this unfair climate crisis.

Laudato Si' Animators on Plastics

Virginia Bell from the Laudato Si' Animators has sent me a link to their Facebook page, where they have an excellent article on Plastics. I

know that I covered plastics in the last E-Bulletin, but it is always helpful to hear more about the problems with recycling it.

I have come to the conclusion that unless I start really looking at what I am buying, things will never change. Having said that, pet food (and I am thinking Cat Food pouches) seem to be hard to get rid of. I am sure you could recycle them in various outlets who send them to Terracycle, but I haven't yet found one near me.

Bishops launch new edition of environment document 'The Call of Creation'

At the beginning of October, on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales launched a new edition of <u>The Call of Creation</u>. Twenty years after it was first published, there is now an even more urgent need to protect our Common Home.

Bishop John Arnold, Lead Bishop for the Environment, and Bishop Richard Moth, Chair of the Social Justice department, wrote the foreword for the document: - "We are a people of hope who believe in redemption. We must study the signs of the times and take the action that is needed to repair our relationship with God's creation. As is made clear in The Call of Creation, the exercise of the virtue of solidarity and the promotion of the common good, which are so needed at this time, are the responsibility of each and every individual and institution in society."

You can read more about it through the <u>CBCEW website</u>, or by reading the document itself by clicking on the link above.

Cornwall Churchgoers asked to donate their energy rebate

<u>Premier Christian News</u> reports on the fact that the Diocese of Truro have asked churchgoers to consider donating their £400 energy rebate to those in need. This was prompted by a selfless member of their congregation asking if they would help him donate his.

Maybe that is something that those who don't really need it could consider doing. I certainly know that our local SVP are fire-fighting at present with the increasing demand on their services, and they would welcome any financial help that could be given.

2. Refugees and Migrants (includes an Event)

Event - Calais Light is calling YOU to join us on our refugee convoys to Calais

Calais Light is asking for people aged 18+ to sign up to travel across to Calais for the weekends of the 18th - 20th November, or the 9th - 11th December. They would particularly welcome experienced continental drivers. A promised weekend of fun and fulfilment is guaranteed. Volunteer and make a difference to the refugees there.

Full details and bookings at www.calaislight.com.

How maps in the media make us more negative about migrants

My niece is doing a Masters in Global Migrations and Social Justice and sent me details of this piece, which they looked at in her course. It is an article from The Correspondent dating back to September 2020, and makes a very good point as to how we can be manipulated by the media, through the maps that they use, into thinking we have a much bigger problem with migration that we actually do.

It certainly makes for very interesting reading, and you can find it <u>here.</u>

Seeking Sanctuary four point plan for avoiding dangerous Channel crossings

Seeking Sanctuary have brought out an interesting October News, which is available to read on their website.

They have a four point plan which they hope would do away with small boat crossings, which was published in their news at the beginning of October, in which they referred to the 'new Home Secretary' - obviously that Home Secretary left in disgrace...but, oh wait, she is now the new Home Secretary again....

Anyway, their plan is as follows: -

1) Open a UK asylum processing centre in Calais using Border Force personnel who are already deployed there, together with interpreters. (The Centre could equally well be in another accessible location such as

Lille or Paris.)

- 2) Develop a system of timed appointments so as not to overwhelm the Centre. These can be made online to avoid unnecessary journeys to Calais. Support and help would be needed to enable applicants to access the system, for example through a dedicated multi-lingual website.
- 3) Provide safe Channel crossings for those who have been interviewed and whose applications are being processed. Provide UK accommodation as at present.
- 4) Provide finance for the French authorities to provide safe and dignified accommodation for those who are waiting to have their claims heard.

They are asking people to get in touch to give them feedback on their proposals.

Someone actually said to me a few days ago, why are the Government keeping asylum seekers locked up when we have a big hole in our workforce at present. Pretty much every shop/cafe in our area has a sign in the window looking for staff, and I have previously shared articles about produce rotting in the fields as there is no one to pick it. What an absolutely ridiculous state of affairs.

Lift the Ban

In this regard, Jennifer Laws from Asylum Matters writes:- The Lift the Ban coalition has shared a new campaign video focusing on polling from earlier this year that showed 81% of the public support giving people seeking asylum the right to work. You can download the video here, send a tweet as below or you can share earlier posts (see Refugee Action here and Asylum Matters here).

Tweet - Dear Government, Looking for a policy that saves £££ but is also wildly popular with the public? It's time to #LiftTheBan and give people seeking asylum the right to work. [insert video]

3. Billions in foreign aid never leaves Britain under Sunak rules - analysis

This Guardian piece from yesterday, 29th October, states that much of the international development budget is to be spent at home, rather than in poor, developing countries. The article reckons that around £3bn of the £7bn that we administer ourselves will be used for housing refugees, according to the Centre for Global Development. (CGD)

Under international rules, this is allowed, but we are the only country in the G7, and only one of a few other countries, that uses its existing aid budget to fund all of the costs of Ukrainian refugees.

To read more of this, including the positive appointment of Andrew Mitchell as Development Minister, click here.

4. Palestine/Israel (includes Events)

Stay informed on what is happening in Palestine

Palestine Solidarity Campaign wrote on Saturday: - This last week we've watched on in horror as Israel has unleashed a new wave of attacks against Palestinians.

We've seen yet more brutal Israeli military invasions of cities across the West Bank - while armed settlers, in coordination with the Israeli military, have continued vicious attacks on indigenous land defenders.

Palestinians are rising to resist Israel's colonial violence through general strikes, civil disobedience, and confrontations with the invading Israeli occupation forces.

You can catch up with what is happening in Palestine live with Palestinian activist Inés Abdel Razek, who gives an update on the situation in Palestine and provides crucial context to understand Israel's colonial violence.

Watch on <u>Instagram</u> (or catch up on <u>YouTube</u>). **Event - Trade Union Solidarity with Palestinian workers**

Event - Free Webinar series: A Land Full of God

Embrace the Middle East invite you to their free webinar series exploring ways in which Christians can promote peace and justice in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. More details from their <u>website</u>. (taking place on the 1st November at 6.30pm, 8th and 15th November at 7.30pm)

Event - On Impunity and Exceptionalism: will Israel be held accountable to international law? The role of the United Kingdom

The Balfour Project write: - Palestinian author and journalist Dr. Ramzy Baroud discusses the reasons behind Israel's lack of accountability to international law. While many countries, especially in the Global South, are held accountable to United Nations resolutions and to international humanitarian laws, Israel remains untouched. The role of the UK, past and present. What will it take for the Palestinians to achieve justice?

Taking place on Thursday 17th November at 3pm. Click <u>here</u> to reserve your place.

Justice for Shadi Khoury

I was horrified to read about 16 year old Shadi Khoury, who was beaten in his home, from where he was dragged barefoot and blindfolded on the 18th October by Israeli Military Forces. Shadi attended a Quaker school that teaches peace and non-violence.

There is an article in <u>Independent Catholic News</u> about his abduction from the Ramallah Friends School, including a link to the school's Facebook page. Also from <u>ICN</u>, there is another piece from the school students, appealing for his release.

Also, you can read more about what is happening to Palestinian children, as this is not an isolated incident, through <u>American Friends Service</u> <u>Committee</u>.

5. Persecuted Christians (includes an Action)

#RedWednesday is on the 23rd November, a day in which we focus on all those who are suffering for their faith around the world. A selection of articles are below:-

Christian Parliamentarian and charity team up to stop Christian genocide in Nigeria

Action: - ACN writes: - We request that the UK Government call on their Nigerian counterparts to bring to justice those responsible for genocidal attacks such as the Pentecost Sunday 2022 massacre and countless other killings, abductions and other atrocities. The UK Government must demand the arrest and imprisonment of terrorists, the return of lands and villages, as well as compensation for the destruction of properties and livelihoods.

Sign the petition here.

Pope condemns DR Congo attacks - 'We watch in horror'

<u>Vatican News</u> reports: - Pope Francis has decried the "horror" continuing to "bloody" the Democratic Republic of Congo, and has condemned the "unacceptable" terror attack against defenceless civilians at a Catholic mission hospital raided on the 20th October.

A Catholic Nun was among seven people reportedly killed in that particular attack.

Sudan's Christians at risk as hardline Islamists tighten grip

Rebecca Tinsley writes for ICN, telling how Sudan's military elite is up to 'it's old tricks, stirring up ethnic conflict.'

The article goes onto say that Sudan has renewed its close ties with Russia. Read it here.

6. Ukraine

It's like a horror film, a nightmare

Jo Siedlecka, through ICN, tells of the experiences that Matthew Carter, CEO of DePaul International, had during six days visiting projects in the

war-torn country. Read about it, and the work that DePaul is doing in Ukraine, here.

Two Jesuits report form the Ukraine front - standing up to Putin and serving refugees in Poland

Another eye-witness account, this time through <u>America Media</u>, giving an interesting account of the situation and what they think of the threat of nuclear action.

Christian CND discusses Ukraine on local radio

Christian CND write: - As the war in Ukraine continues to rage the focus of the media has moved to the renewed threats from Vladimir Putin that he might use nuclear weapons. Political leaders in Russia have also been calling for so-called 'tactical' nuclear weapons to be used.

As US President Joe Biden has said, the risk of "nuclear armageddon" is the highest it has been since the early 1960s. Against this backdrop Christian CND was invited on to BBC local radio stations across England a few weeks ago to talk about what the Christian response to these threats should be.

Not only is it important to make people aware of the very real risks of the situation but we must also offer hope. The biggest single thing we as Christians can do is pray - something we have been joining with others to do since the start of the conflict.

You can listen to the interview on BBC Merseyside here.

7. Fairtrade (includes an Action)

Are Fairtrade products really more expensive?

This article is a couple of months old now, but useful in terms of making good choices in regards to the food that you put in your basket. Have a look at the Fairtrade Foundation website.

Action - Sign the official record of support for people-centred trade

Transform Trade write: - Right now trade doesn't value people. CEOs are

taking home the lifetime earnings of a worker in 4 days, businesses get away with destroying lives, and governments block climate action.

But it doesn't have to be this way. People centred trade has the power to transform lives and protect the planet we all rely on.

<u>Add your name</u> and call for trade which values people and the planet over profit.

8. Pact's Operation Elf offers hope for parents in prison

Theresa Alessandro, Pact's Catholic Community Engagement Manager, has written through ICN: - Christmas can be a particularly difficult time for prisoners and their families. Over the past few years, the pain of separation felt by both parents in prison and their children has been worsened by restrictions on visits due to the pandemic. Pact's Operation Elf aims to offer a light in these dark times.

To read about what they are doing and how you can help, click on this <u>link.</u>

9. World Day of the Poor

<u>The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales</u> write: - The sixth World Day of the Poor will be celebrated by the Catholic Church on Sunday 13 November, with the theme of "For your sakes Christ became poor" (2 Cor 8:9).

<u>Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)</u>, the Bishops' Conference agency promoting domestic social action, has produced a number of resources with Redemptorist Publications, including a novena, reflections, an activity for school or parish groups, and more.

Click on the links above for words from Pope Francis and various resources to be used.

Newsletters/Reports

10. NW NJPN E-Bulletin October 2022

Lots of interesting political pieces, as the Government was only a couple of weeks ago. Obviously things have now changed, but still some good

articles to read and plenty of diary dates. Read it through the <u>NJPN</u> website.

11. Green Christian News No. 216

Links to their conference news and videos, plus details of events. Read it <u>here.</u>

12. Salesians of Don Bosco October 2022

This newsletter focuses on the Cost of Living Crisis, and their organisation of the month is the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP). You can read it here.

13. The Peace Museum Newsletter October 2022

Interesting read, but not available on the website. However, the articles can be found individually. Why don't you check in here and have a browse.

14. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

Articles and events. Click here to read.

15. Joint Public Issues Team October 2022

Lots of good articles concerning social action issues. You can read it through this link.

16. Joy in Enough Newsletter

A few forthcoming events for your diary. Click here for details.

17. Biofuelwatch October 2022

A good read if you want to know more about what Drax gets up to, and more about the environment. Get involved through their <u>website</u>.

18. Spark - Church Action on Poverty Newsletter Autumn 2022

See how you and your church or group can respond to the cost-of-living crisis, hear from the growing Pantry network, and read reflections from their 40th anniversary Pilgrimage events. Read it here.

19. The Boaz Trust October 2022

Read about the excellent work that the Boaz Trust are involved in by clicking <u>here.</u>

EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)

20. 8th November - 11am - 4pm - Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

<u>Life Beyond Borders</u>

21. 9th - 11th November - RISING Global Peace Forum

More details through Coventry University. Sign up here.

22. 12th November - 10.30am - 4pm - NJPN

Open Networking Day 'A better kind of politics'. More details on the poster at the top of this e-bulletin.

23. 12th November - 10.30am - 4pm - World Community for Christian Meditation

Signposts of love, authenticity and meditation (a retreat day with John Siddique)

24. 12th November - 11am - 5pm - Pact

JustPeople Workshop in Lewes

25. 16th November - 5pm - 6pm - Housing Justice

Online Giving Thanks Event

26. 17th November - 9am - 11am - World Community for Christian Meditation

Online only! Breathing in, breathing out; What is happening to earth our only home.

27. 19th November - 11am - 3pm - Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility

Just Money Conference

28. 26th November - 10am - 1.30pm - Pact

Kent's JustPeople Roadshow

29. 3rd December - 2pm Pax Christi

Advent Peace Service at Church of the Holy Apostles, Pimlico

30. 6th December - 7pm - Pact

Farm Street Church - Pact's London Christmas Carol Service

31. 8th December - 7pm - Pact

Pact's Nottingham Christmas Carol Service

32. NJPN Save the Dates for 2023



Actions

33. Please ask the Pope to reconsider his visit to Bahrain

Pope Francis is due to visit Bahrain between the 3rd and 6th November, but due to their human rights issues, we have been asked to write to His Holiness, asking him to reconsider.

Ali Mushaima, the Bahraini activist and son of Hassan Mushaima the jailed & tortured leader of the democratic opposition writes: - "I want them to ask His Holiness to reconsider the visit to Bahrain. And if the Pope insists on going, then I ask him to visit my father and the imprisoned clergy and demand their release in public."

Ali himself has written to the Pope, if you would like a copy of his letter you can reach Ali at : ali.mashaima@gmail.com

Background can be found

here: https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/bahraini-rights-groups-pope-francis-raise-religious-freedom-visit

34. Sanction Aviation Fuel Now

Burma Campaign write: - The Burmese military is using its air force to indiscriminately bomb civilians. Dozens of people have been killed. Homes, schools, hospitals and churches have been damaged or destroyed.

The majority of the estimated 700,000 people who have been forced to flee their homes since the military coup last year have fled because of airstrikes or the threat of airstrikes.

Without aviation fuel the jets can't fly. If they can't fly, they can't bomb.

Tell the British government to sanction aviation fuel now.

THE LAST WORD

35. The Letter - A Message for our Earth

The film that tells the story of the encyclical Laudato Si' and the power of humanity to stop the ecological crisis, was released at the Vatican on a very special day: the feast of St. Francis of Assisi and the closing of the

Season of Creation.

Within 24 hours it had reached 165,000 views through YouTube. Watch it here, and share with your friends.

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NEWS LINKS

Independent Catholic News

Find Justice and Peace stories at:
http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/justice-peace-environment
Sign-up to receive these regularly.

Catholic Communications Network Find news stories at www.catholicnews.org.uk

Latest Zenit Headlines here

Vatican News homepage: <u>www.vaticannews.va</u>

World Council of Churches https://www.oikoumene.org/en/

UK Parliament Newshttps://www.parliament.uk/business/news/

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Registered Office: - NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX Telephone Numbers: - 020 7901 4864 and 07365 838535

About these E-BULLETINS

The items above are emails received from around the Network which may be of interest to those involved in working for justice and peace.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of NJPN.

To **unsubscribe** from these mailings, email ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org with "unsubscribe" in the subject box. We also welcome your **feedback** at the same address.

Forwarding these emails: Please feel free to forward these emails on to your contacts – but please remember to tell them to contact YOU if they want to unsubscribe!

Urgent Actions:

We sometimes receive emails that need immediate action and cannot wait for the weekly bulletin. To receive these items email the same address with "urgent actions" in the subject

If you appreciate these bulletins, help to keep them coming by donating to NJPN:

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